



XXV FIG Congress

"Engaging the Challenges, Enhancing the Relevance"
16 - 21 JUNE 2014, MALAYSIA

WE, the participants of the **FIG/UN-GGIM-AP Technical Sessions on Global Geodetic Reference Frame** at the XXV FIG Congress on 19th June 2014, having met in the context to share knowledge, promote understanding and to enhance cooperation for the sustainability and enhancement of the Global Geodetic Reference Frame, hereby issue the:

UN-GGIM-AP/FIG Statement on Global Geodetic Reference Frame

Recognising the growing need for an accurate and stable Global Geodetic Reference Frame to support, *inter alia*, earth observation, including sea level and climate change monitoring, natural hazard and disaster management and a wide range of other activities in public and private sectors throughout the World, contributing towards inclusive social progress, environmental sustainability and economic development,

Noticing the decision adopted by the Committee of Experts on UN-GGIM at its third session in Cambridge in July 2013, on taking actions to facilitate the submission of a resolution on Global Geodetic Reference Frame to be tabled at the 2013-14 session of the UN General Assembly and to establish a Working Group to develop the conceptual note and draft text of a UN General Assembly resolution,

Noticing further that the draft resolution is planned to be discussed at the fourth session of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management in New York on 6 – 8 August 2014,

Reaffirming the collective commitment of UN-GGIM-AP and FIG to support the implementation of an accurate and stable geodetic reference frame being crucially important to a wide range of activities in all territories of the World, at land and at sea,

Urges member states and their representatives within UN-GGIM-AP together with all member states and their representatives at the fourth session of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, to support the approval of a draft resolution on Global Geodetic Reference Frame for Sustainable Development, and to submit to the 2013-14 session of the UN General Assembly for final adoption

Urges FIG member associations and all other membership groups of FIG, to take appropriate initiatives to inform and encourage the representatives of their respective countries to the fourth session of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, to support the approval of the draft resolution on Global Geodetic Reference Frame for Sustainable Development and its submission to the UN General Assembly.

Kuala Lumpur
19th June 2014

International Federation of Surveyors
Fédération Internationale des Géomètres
Internationale Vereinigung der Vermessungsingenieure



ENGAGING THE CHALLENGE:
ENHANCING THE RELEVANCE

To:

Member Associations
Affiliate Members
Academic Members
Corporate Members
Correspondents
Council Members
Commissions and Permanent Institutions
Honorary Presidents
Honorary Members

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11 July 2014

Dear President and members,

MINUTES OF THE 37th FIG GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The XXC FIG Congress 2014 attracted more than 2500 participants from almost 100 countries. At the 37th General Assembly 61 member associations were present.

Please find enclosed a copy of the minutes of the 37th FIG General Assembly held in Kuala Lumpur on the 16 and 21 June 2014. As in the past, we only send the hard copy minutes without appendices. All appendices are available on the web and they are all linked to the web version of the minutes at: www.fig.net/admin/ga/2014/minutes.htm. Through this link you can also download a pdf version of the minutes

AMENDMENTS TO FIG STATUTES

FIG Council proposed three amendments to the Statutes and Internal Rules for the consideration of the General Assembly. The 37th General Assembly by majority decision at its first session amended the Statutes and Internal Rules that was implemented at the second session of the General Assembly

The right to a vote remains with members associations and the number of vote(s) that may be cast is relative to association's membership numbers was approved. The new FIG Statutes 6.6 now read -

A member association may:

- a) cast one vote on each issue provided the member association had in the most recent subscription period an individual membership of 999 or fewer;
- b) cast up to three votes on each issue provided the member association had in the most recent subscription period an individual membership of 5,500 or more, and subjected to the maximum subscription for a member association set by the General Assembly;
- c) otherwise cast up to two votes on each issue.

The two other amendments relate to issue on force majeure and FIG Task Force.

DECISIONS

A number of decisions were made by the 37th General Assembly. Prof. Dr. Chyssy Potsiou (Technical Chamber of Greece) was affirmed as FIG President, Prof. Rudolf Staiger (DVW Germany) and Dr. Diane Dumashie (RICS, United Kingdom) were elected as Vice President for the term 2015-18, all by majority decision. The 37th General Assembly also by majority decision chose the submissions by the Finnish Association of Geodetic and Land Surveyors (MIL) and Finnish Association of Surveyors (MAKLI) as well as that by the Turkish Chamber of Survey and Cadastre Engineers. Consequently, the 2017 FIG Working Week will be held in Helsinki, Finland during 100th anniversary of Finnish independence and the 2018 FIG Congress in Istanbul, Turkey.

John Hohol, NSPS, USA and Iain Greenway, ICES, UK were both appointed Honorary Members of the Federation. Both have been very active within FIG for many years. One new member association was admitted, The Institute of Surveyors (St. Lucia) Inc. ISSL. The General Assembly also reinstated the membership of Botswana Surveying and Mapping Association and Ordre des Geometres et Experts Fonciers, Algeria

In addition, the UN-GGIM-AP/FIG Statement on Global Geodetic Reference Frame was adopted by the General Assembly. FIG recognized the growing need for an accurate and stable Global Geodetic Reference Frame to support, inter alia, earth observation, including sea level and climate change monitoring, natural hazard and disaster management and a wide range of other activities in public and private sectors throughout the World, contributing towards inclusive social progress, environmental sustainability and economic development. The Statement was adopted by the UN-GGIM-AP Executive Board at its meeting on 20th June during the XXV FIG Congress and urges -

- member states and their representatives within UN-GGIM-AP together with all member states and their representatives at the fourth session of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, to support the approval of a draft resolution on Global Geodetic Reference Frame for Sustainable Development, and to submit to the 2013-14 session of the UN General Assembly for final adoption; and
- FIG member associations and all other membership groups of FIG, to take appropriate initiatives to inform and encourage the representatives of their respective countries to the fourth session of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, to support the approval of the draft resolution on Global Geodetic Reference Frame for Sustainable Development and its submission to the UN General Assembly.

The General Assembly supported the request that FIG work towards an "International Week (or Day) of the Surveyor". In the meantime, it is hoped that FIG member associations and/or regional structures can emulate the current efforts by NSPS, United States and CLGE in Europe to similarly adopt and celebrate that week in March as the "Week of the Surveyor".

FIG ANNUAL REVIEW 2013 AND NEW FIG PUBLICATIONS

A hard copy of the Annual Review 2013 is attached to this letter and is also available at: www.fig.net/annual_review/anrew13/areview2013.pdf. Further copies can be ordered from the FIG Office, please email: fig@fig.net. We have also included hard copies of the recent FIG Publications.

2015 FIG WORKING WEEK, SOFIA, BULGARIA, 17-20 MAY 2015

The 38th FIG General Assembly and the 2015 FIG Working Week will be jointly organized by FIG and the Chamber of Graduated Surveyors, Bulgaria between 17th and 20th May. Further information may be found on the Working Week web site www.fig.net/fig2015. The first Working Week of the new FIG Council has as its overall theme "From the Wisdom of the Ages to the Challenges of the Modern World". Please reserve these dates and plan to join us in Sofia, Bulgaria.

If any members have any comments or request for revision to the minutes, please inform the undersigned (email: louise.friis-hansen@fig.net) before **31 August 2014**. The FIG web site carries a report on the General Assembly at: www.fig.net/news/news_2014/ga_kl_june_2014.htm and about the Congress with picture gallery at: www.fig.net/news/fig2014/index.htm. Conference proceedings can be found at www.fig.net/pub/fig2014/index.htm

Thank you for your continuing support.

Yours sincerely,



Louise Friis-Hansen
FIG Manager

Incl.

- Minutes from the General Assembly
- FIG Annual Report 2013
- New FIG Publications and Report:
 - o FIG publication 61: CADASTRE 2014 and Beyond - FIG report
 - o FIG Publication 62: Ellipsoidally Referenced Surveying for Hydrography - FIG guide
 - o FIG Publication 63: The Africa Task Force 2009-2014 - FIG report
 - o FIG publication 49: (2nd and updated edition): FIG Guide on Cost Effective GNSS Positioning Techniques
 - o A FIG Review of the Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM) Phase II Summary Report
 - o FIG Publication 64: Reference Frames in Practice Manual - FIG Guide is available in pdf version: www.fig.net/pub/figpub/pub64/Figpub64.pdf
- Joint UN-GGIM-AP/FIG Statement on Global Geodetic Reference Frame